

Principles of monitoring and evaluation



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Session Overview

- ❑ Definitions of Program Components
- ❑ Definitions of Monitoring and Evaluation
- ❑ Comparing M&E
- ❑ Importance of M&E
- ❑ Overview of Results Framework

Purposes of M&E



Program components

Inputs \Rightarrow Activities \Rightarrow Outputs \Rightarrow Outcomes \Rightarrow Impact

Program components

- Inputs: Resources used in an program/project, such as money, staff, curricula, and materials.
 - USG, government, & other donors
 - C&T personnel
 - C&T protocols and guidance
 - Training materials
 - HIV test kits

Program components (continued)

- ▣ Activities: Services that the program/project provides to accomplish its objectives, such as outreach, materials distribution, counseling sessions, workshops, and training.
 - Provide pre-test counseling, HIV tests, post-test counseling
 - Train C&T personnel and site managers

Program components (continued)

- Outputs: Direct products or deliverables of the program, such as intervention sessions completed, people reached, and materials distributed.
 - # personnel certified
 - # clients receiving pre-test counseling, HIV tests, post-test counseling

Program components (continued)

- Outcomes: Program results that occur both immediately and some time after the activities are completed, such as changes in knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, skills, behaviors, access, policies, and environmental conditions.
 - Quality of C&T improved
 - Clients develop & adhere to personalized risk-reduction and treatment strategy

Program components (continued)

- Impacts: Long-term results of one or more programs over time, such as changes in HIV infection, morbidity, and mortality
 - HIV transmission rates decrease
 - HIV incidence decreases
 - HIV morbidity and mortality decrease

What is monitoring?

- Routine tracking of information about a program/project and its intended outputs, outcomes and impacts.
- Measurement of progress toward achieving program/project objectives; most often involves counting what we are doing.
- Tracks cost and program/project functioning.
- Provides basis for program/project evaluation when linked to a specific program/project.

What is evaluation?

- Comprehensive evaluation is based on research and analysis covering the conceptualization and design of programmes, the monitoring of programme interventions, and the assessment of programme utility.
- Rigorous, scientifically based analysis of information about program activities, characteristics, and outcomes to determine the merit or worth of a specific program/project.
 - ▣ Requires study design; sometimes a control or comparison group; often measurement over time.
- Analysis of monitoring data to improve programs/projects and inform decisions about future resource allocations.

Simply...

- ▣ **Monitoring** is the routine tracking of priority information about a program and its intended effects.
- ▣ **Evaluation** is a collection of activities designed to determine the value or worth of a specific programme, intervention or project. That means being able to link a particular output or outcome directly to a particular intervention.

Program components as they relate to M&E

- ▣ Assessment and Planning
- ▣ Input/Output Monitoring
- ▣ Outcome Monitoring
- ▣ Impact Monitoring
- ▣ Process Evaluation
- ▣ Outcome Evaluation
- ▣ Impact Evaluation

M&E Terminology—Types of M&E

□ Assessment & Planning:

- Collection of information and data needed to plan programs/projects and initiatives. These data may describe the needs of the population and the factors that put people at risk, as well as the context, program response, and resources available (financial and human).
- Answers questions such as:
 - What are the needs of the population to be reached by the program/project or initiative?
 - How should the program/project or initiative be designed or modified to address population needs?
 - What would be the best way to deliver this program/project or initiative?

M&E Terminology—Types of M&E

□ Input/Output Monitoring:

- Collects data describing the individuals served, the services provided, and the resources used to deliver those services.
- Answers questions such as:
 - What services were delivered? What population was served and what numbers were served? What staffing/resources were used?

□ Process Evaluation:

- Collects and analyzes more detailed data about how the intervention was delivered, differences between the intended population and the population served, and access to the intervention.
- Answers questions such as:
 - Was the intervention implemented as intended? Did the intervention reach the intended audience? What barriers did clients experience in accessing the intervention?

M&E Terminology—Types of M&E

□ Outcome Monitoring:

- Basic tracking of measures related to desired program/project outcomes. With National AIDS programs, outcome monitoring is typically conducted through population-based surveys to track whether or not desired outcomes have been reached. For NGOs, CBOs, and particular interventions, monitoring outcomes usually means tracking information directly related to program clients, such as change in knowledge, attitudes, behavior.
- Answers the question:
 - Did the expected outcomes occur, e.g., expected knowledge gained; expected change in behavior occurred; expected client use of services occurred?

M&E Terminology—Types of M&E

□ Outcome Evaluation:

- Collects and analyzes data used to determine if & by how much an intervention achieved its intended outcomes.
 - Attributes observed change to the intervention tested
 - Describes the extent of program outcomes
 - Indicates what might happen in the absence of the program
 - Methodologically rigorous, requiring a comparative element
- Answers the question:
 - Did the intervention cause the expected outcomes?

M&E Terminology—Types of M&E

□ Impact Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Collects data about HIV infection at the jurisdictional, regional, and national levels.
- Answers the question:
 - What long-term effects do interventions have on HIV infection?

Distinction between Impact Monitoring and Evaluation

- Impact monitoring (e.g., disease surveillance).
- Impact evaluation (e.g., rise or fall of disease incidence/prevalence as a function of HIV/AIDS programs).

Outcome vs. impact evaluation

- In the case of HIV, an outcome evaluation may aim to demonstrate that a specific project has actually reduced risk behaviour, while an impact evaluation would aim to demonstrate that the change in behaviour is attributable to the project and had an impact in terms of reduced transmission of HIV.

Review

□ Process evaluation

- Are the outreach workers working in the right place?

□ Outcome evaluation

- Are more people enrolled in prevention, care and treatment programmes?

□ Impact evaluation

- Has HIV incidence decreased?

M&E Terminology Worksheet

- ▣ Work at your seats and determine which type of M&E each example is describing.

What is monitoring and evaluation?

- M&E is an essential tool to:
 - Make informed decisions regarding operations management and service delivery
 - Ensure the most effective and efficient uses of resources
 - Determine the extent to which the program/project is on track and to make any needed corrections accordingly
 - Evaluate the extent to which the program/project is having or has had the desired impact

Why M&E is important #1

- M&E provides organizations with a tool to measure programme effectiveness
 - Effectiveness measures the degree to which results and objectives have been achieved
 - An effective programme is one that achieves its results and objectives

Why M&E is important #2

- M&E provides organizations with a tool to monitor how efficiently the programme is performing
 - Efficiency measures how productively inputs were used in the creation of outputs
 - An effective programme is one that achieves its objectives with the minimum expenditures of resources

Why M&E is important #3

- ▣ M&E fosters public and political cooperation and supports information needs for your target audience

Why M&E is important #4

- ▣ M&E provides managers with a tool to gain timely information on the progress of project activities that allows them to compare what was planned to what happened

Why M&E is important #5

- ▣ M&E promotes organisational learning and encourages adaptive management

Thank You!